

Intimation.

Powell's
ALEXANDRA
BUILDINGS.

Now on Show.

NEW
GOODS.
FOR LADIES.Parisian
Millinery.Untrimmed
Straws
and
Felts.Costumes,
Coats.Blouses,
Golf Jerseys,
Viyella
Shirts.Dress Skirts
and
Underskirts.Tweeds,
Voiles,
Eoliennes, etc.

FOR CHILDREN.

Frocks,
Tunics,
Coats, Suits,
Hats, Shoes,
Hosiery,
Gloves, etc.POWELL'S
ALEXANDRA
BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 8th October, 1908.

Public Companies.

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE,
LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the Undersecretary on FRIDAY, the 13th inst., at Noon.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 9th to the 23rd inst., 1908, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.,
General Agents.
Hongkong, 2nd October, 1908. [886]

THE D I-Y FARM COMPANY,
LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE TWELFTH ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the Company's Town Office, 2 Lower Albert Road, Hongkong, on TUESDAY, the 27th October, 1908, at Noon, for the purpose of presenting the report of the Directors and Statement of Accounts to 31st July, 1908.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 13th to the 27th October, 1908, both days inclusive.

By Order,
S. A. SETH,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 7th October, 1908. [894]

Auction.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION,

FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,
TO-MORROW,
the 9th October, 1908, at 11 A.M., at No. 174,
Queen's Road Central,

SUNDY

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.
TERMS:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,

Auctioneers.
Hongkong, 8th October, 1908. [897]

Intimations.

Telephone:

Telegrams:

482.

"Cyclometer."

TYPEWRITERS

New, Re-Built and

SECOND-HAND.

We sell all makes without
prejudice.

RE-BUILT & REPAIR

STOCK

RIBBONS, CARBONS, &c.

M. CHINESE EXCHANGED

MANUSCRIPTS TYPED.

STENO-TYPISTS.

DRAGON CYCLE

DEPOT,

33-35, Des Vœux Road, Central,
Hongkong. [154]

D. NOMA,

PROFESSIONAL TATTOOER

AND

THE EXPERT REMOVER OF TATTOO
MARKS.

No. 10 QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL.

PATRONISED by Prince of Wales, then
H. R. H. The Duke of York, and
H. R. H. The Emperor of Russia, and having
4,500 testimonials from all sources.

My 34 years' experience in tattooing is a
guarantee of good work and prompt execution.
My colours are absolutely fast and perfectly
harmless, and produce a charming effect not
attainable by any other, as their composition is
only known to me. In tattooing unlike some
species of engravings, care must be taken to
have the work done in a perfect, high toned
manner. In order to take special precaution
against possible dangers, I use fresh materials
daily.

The copying of Portraits with distinct
subtleties a speciality.

Hongkong, 1st September, 1908.

H. E. TANG SHAO-YI'S MISSION.

The foreign mission of H. E. Tang Shao-yi, whom we are able to welcome to Shanghai for a few days, coincides with a significant change in the whole trend of China's relations with other countries. Although the Peking authorities have not yet advanced far enough to regard intercourse with foreign Governments as the normal and agreeable province of all administrations, diplomacy is no longer a despised science, but is attracting more and more the serious attention of the Throne and its Ministers. A marked departure from old-time traditions was made with the appointment of Sir Walter Hillier as adviser to the Chinese Government. It is true that some uncertainty may still exist even in the mind of his employers with regard to the precise scope of his functions; but the presence of a foreigner in close touch with the administration, whose advice especially on foreign affairs is always ready to hand, argues a desire to handle international questions more in conformity with modern diplomacy than has hitherto been the practice in Peking. This enforced attention to a world beyond its immediate borders has served to bring China into touch with her own fellow-countrymen over seas; and as this intercourse also is developed, the livelier intelligence that may be attributed to travelled Chinese is not likely to be altogether lost to the counsels of the fatherland. From no other quarter can China learn more rapidly to appreciate the fact that the old methods break down completely in the face of ever increasing contact with foreigners. The process of assimilation has begun. It is inevitable that its first stages should be slow; but to borrow the simile from rabbits recently applied by Sir Robert Hart to consequences: "Once they get a start you cannot stop them."

By the choice of H. E. Tang Shao-yi for the important mission now entrusted to him the Chinese Government has shown its appreciation of the necessity of devoting some of the best talent at its disposal to the exigencies of diplomacy. The unfortunate shortage of men of ability in China has exposed the Administration to the temptation of sacrificing its representation abroad to the pressing needs of domestic government. Whatever may be behind the appointment of the special Envoy to the United States—for the course of Chinese politics is still intricate—there can be no question of his qualifications for the post. H. E. Tang Shao-yi is the first foreign-trained Chinese (he was educated at Columbia University, New York) to attain high rank in the Chinese Government. He was the delegate at Calcutta who negotiated the Adhesion Agreement to the Tibetan Convention, and he has held successive offices until he was raised to the honorary rank of a President of a Ministry at the time of his present appointment. Throughout his official life he has been a determined antagonist of opium-smoking, and he stands to-day for the best that China has been able to produce with the help of foreign education. Although the main purpose of his mission is to return thanks for the action of the United States in restoring to China the unexpended balance of the Boxer indemnity, the occasion of his journey is being improved upon by a stay in Japan and subsequent visits to European capitals. It is not to be expected that the mission of one man, however highly placed, to several foreign countries can lead directly to the reorganization of every department of state in China. Even his investigations into the currency question must be superficial, and may not in the end reach him more than could be learned by study at home. But if on his return his influence in the councils of Peking remains unimpaired, the message that he is able to bring back regarding the demeanour of foreign governments towards this country should not be lost on the Chinese authorities. He will find everywhere the same readiness to treat China as any other country is treated, as soon as China ceases to arrogate to herself a peculiar position in the family of nations.

If a single mission does not entail the complete abandonment of old methods, it acts at least as a splendid stimulus in this direction. The decision has been taken to devote the money accruing to China by America's action to educational purposes, and with happy tact the Government promises to send annually a certain number of students to the United States. In H. E. Tang Shao-yi's suite will be many to whom the tour should prove of special educative value, and we may expect most of them to return as enthusiasts in the cause of foreign education. The recognition already accorded by the Government during the last two years to foreign-trained Chinese is confirmed by the present mission and the determination to send students abroad regularly at the country's expense. It remains only to see that the Peking authorities adhere to their good intentions and that the money is actually forthcoming for definite educational purposes. There will be some in whom education abroad will only awaken a keener desire to retain China exclusively for the Chinese; but as the stream of returned students grows, the leaven which has manifested itself in H. E. Tang Shao-yi will extend its operations and we may expect to see Chinese diplomacy pursuing a more stereotyped course. Again, however, it is essential that time should be given for the leaven to work. To-day the student who has been well educated abroad remains as a member apart in the body politic by reason of the paucity of his fellows among the millions of China. As the numbers increase the blemishes caused by this comparative isolation will wear off and the good results only remain.—N. C. D. News.

PABST BREWING COMPANY,
MILWAUKEE.

FRESH SUPPLIES

ALWAYS KEPT IN STOCK

BY

SIEMSEN & Co.,

Agents for

HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA,

Hongkong, 21st July, 1907. [11]

SINGAPORE FREIGHT RATES.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SUB-COMMITTEE
TO INVESTIGATE.

We ventured a guess that the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce yesterday, 29th ult., might bring forth something interesting as regards the attitude of that body towards the Shipping Conference, and the excessive rates of freight now prevailing. This is the report of the speech of the Chairman, Mr. W. P. Waddell, dealing with:

FREIGHT RATES.

Five members of the Chamber were appointed on the 19th June as a Sub-Committee to investigate and report to the Committee of the Chamber in regard to present rates of freight from Singapore, and also to watch future rates, and to report to the committee in regard to any changes. The Selangor Chamber of Commerce addressed the Chamber some time ago complaining of the recent increase in the rate for rubbers to London, and the matter was referred to the Conference, which could not see its way to accede to the request for a reduction.

It would have been interesting also, to know what the constitution of the sub-committee is, because the nature of their investigations, and the trend of their report, will largely depend on that. The "watching brief" of this sub-committee must be somewhat of a sincere, since the representations of the Selangor Chamber of Commerce as to the increased rate for rubber to London, only brought forth the reply that "The Conference did not see its way to accede to the request for a reduction." Perhaps the Selangor Chinese Chamber of Commerce will make a further inquiry why the Conference puts a

TAX OF 10/- A TON ON TIN.

In 1902 the rate for tin was 17/6, fixed as a fair and remunerative rate; it was undoubtedly remunerative, since not many years before tin had been carried at 10/. The rate now is 27/6. If 17/6 was "a fair and remunerative rate" why charge that extra 10/ which plainly comes OUT OF THE POCKETS OF THE MINERS and operates as an export tax on tin. The Selangor Chamber would have a stronger case if it had chosen this. The answer, however, would have been just the same. "The Conference does not see its way to reduce rates."

We speak with some confidence, because that was what happened in the case of Trocas Shells. This article with an interesting name used to be a fair business for Singapore. They mostly come from Macassar, and the rate from that port was, at a certain time, 6/ per 20 cwt. The Conference raised its rate to 42/6 per 20 cwt. from Singapore; that is 8/ as against the freight from the more distant and less well-served Macassar 6/. "Quite a fair and reasonable rate."

We shall shortly be able to publish some particularly interesting documents relating to the Shipping Conference—official, like most of the other authorities to which we have referred—which it will be a pity to leave in the comparative obscurity of a report published by His Majesty's Stationery Office. These we have gone to some considerable pains to obtain, and we feel sure they will be read with great interest.—Singapore Free Press.

Intimations.

HONGKONG GYMKHANA CLUB.

THE FIFTH and LAST MEETING of the Season will be held at Happy Valley, on SATURDAY, 10th October, 1908, commencing at 3.45 P.M.

The Charge of Admission will be \$1.00 for others than Members of the Hongkong Jockey Club or Gymkhana Club.

Soldiers and Sailors in uniform Half-price.

The Committee invite the Ladies of Hongkong to be present.

REGINALD F. C. MASTER,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

Hongkong, 7th October, 1908. [896]

THE Superiority of the Italian Convent begs to inform the Benevolent Ladies of the Colony that a SPECIAL SALE will be held at the CONVENT, 28 Causeway Road, on the 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th inst., of Ladies' and Children's Underclothing, Children's Dresses and other Embroidered Articles.

The work has been entirely done by the Orphans of the Convent, and is now sold on their behalf.

The Superiority hopes to receive and merit the Benevolent Ladies' kind support on the occasion.

ITALIAN CONVENT.

Hongkong, 7th October, 1908. [500]

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY,
LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. ... Every 10 minutes
9.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes
11.00 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes
2.15 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes
3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes
5.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes

NIGHT CARE.

8.45 p.m. and 9 p.m., 9.45 p.m. to 11.15 p.m. every half hour.

SUNDAYS.

6.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes
9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. ... Every 30 minutes
9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. ... Every 10 minutes
11.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon ... Every 15 minutes
12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes
1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes
5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes
6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes
7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes

NIGHT CARS as on Week Days.

SATURDAYS.

Extra cars at 3.15 p.m., 11.30 p.m. and 11.45 p.m.

SPECIAL CARS by Arrangement at the Company's Office, ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS, Des Vœux Road Central.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 6th June, 1907. [17]

Intimations.

OF THE MULTITUDES.

who have used it, or are now using it, we have never heard of any one who has been disappointed in it. No claims are made for it except those which are amply justified by experience. In commending it to the afflicted we simply point to its record. It has done great things, and it is certain to continue the excellent work. There is—no medicine which can be used with greater and more reasonable faith and confidence. It nourishes and keeps up the strength during those periods when the appetite fails and food cannot be digested. To guard against imitations and substitutions, our "trade mark" is put on every bottle of "Wampole's Preparation," and without it none is genuine. It is palatable as honey and contains the nutritive and curative properties of Pure Cod Liver Oil, extracted by us from fresh cod livers, combined with the Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites and the Extracts of Malt and Wild Cherry. Taken before meals it creates an appetite, aids digestion, renews vital power, drives out disease germs, makes the blood rich and full of constructive elements, and gives back to the pleasures and labours of the world many who had abandoned hope. Dr. S. H. McCoy, of Canada, says: "I testify with pleasure to its unlimited usefulness as a tissue builder." Its curative powers can always be relied upon. It makes a new era in medicine, is beneficial from the first dose and represents effective medical treatment of the twentieth century. "You can trust it as the Ivy does the Oak." One bottle convinces. Watch carefully against imitations. At all chemists here and throughout the world.

12

THE TRADE MARKS ORDINANCE,
1893.APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF
TRADE MARK.

NOTICE is hereby given that Messrs. CARLOWITZ AND COMPANY, carrying on business at Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, and elsewhere as Merchants, have, on the 6th day of July, 1908, applied for the registration in Hongkong in the Register of Trade Marks of the following Trade Mark:

The distinctive device of a bird standing on its leg on a mound on which is also a sprig of flowers;

in the name of Messrs. CARLOWITZ AND COMPANY, who claim to be the proprietors thereof.

The Trade Mark is intended to be used by the applicant forthwith in respect of the following goods:—

COTTON GOODS (LAMPWORKS).

IN CLASS 25.

A Facsimile of the Trade Mark can be seen at the Office of the Colonial Secretary of Hongkong and also at the Office of the undersigned.

Dated the 7th day of August, 1908.

JOHNSON, STOKES & MASTER,

Solicitors for the Applicants,
8, Des Vœux Road Central,
Hongkong.

[737]

THE IMPERIAL COLONIAL CLUB.

THE above Club is formed chiefly for COLONIAL and OVER-SEAS MEMBERS; it is situated at No. 8, Piccadilly (the centre of Clubland), opposite the Green Park.

The Club has a Bridge Section, Reception, Dining, Billiard Room, Smoking Lounge, Reading Room and Library.

Ladies are eligible as Members.

Entrance Fee, Five Guineas, Annual Subscription, Five Guineas.

Further particulars from

THE ORGANISING SECRETARY,

84, Piccadilly, W.

London, 19th August, 1908. [769]

THE CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND
MORTGAGE CO., LTD.

(CAPITAL PAID UP\$1,250,000)

Loans on Mortgage of House Property, &c.
Goods received on Storage.
Advances made on Merchandise.
Loans made on the Provident System.
(Rates and Particulars on application).

THE OFFICE OF
TRUSTEE, EXECUTOR OF WILLS,
ATTORNEY, &c.,
Undertaken and Executed.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 19th March, 1908. [48]

THERAPION MAY NOW ALSO BE OBTAINED
IN DRAGEE (TASTELESS) FORM.

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY

TRADE THERAPION MARK.

This successful and highly popular remedy, used in the Continental Hospitals by Ricord, Kossan, Jobert, Virey and others, combines all the elements to be sought in a medicine of the kind, and surpasses everything hitherto employed.

THERAPION No. 1

It is especially adapted for the treatment of all diseases of the lower bowels, such as constipation, indigestion, and all the more trying complaints of this kind. It will be found astonishingly efficacious in all cases of indigestion, flatulence, and all the more trying complaints of this kind. It will be found astonishingly efficacious in all cases of indigestion, flatulence, and all the more trying complaints of this kind.

THERAPION No. 2

It is especially adapted for the treatment of all diseases of the lower bowels, such as constipation, indigestion, and all the more trying complaints of this kind. It will be found astonishingly efficacious in all cases of indigestion, flatulence, and all the more trying complaints of this kind.

THERAPION No. 3

It is especially adapted for the treatment of all diseases of the lower bowels, such as constipation, indigestion, and all the more trying complaints of this kind. It will be found astonishingly efficacious in all cases of indigestion, flatulence, and all the more trying complaints of this kind.

THERAPION

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It is especially adapted for the treatment of all diseases of the lower bowels, such as constipation, indigestion, and all the more trying complaints of this kind. It will be found astonishingly efficacious in all cases of indigestion,

Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

AERATED WATER MANUFACTURERS.

THIS SEASON'S SPECIALITIES—

Lime Fruit
Champagne,
Dry Ginger Ale,
Lemon Squash,
Champagne Cider,
Orange Champagne.

WATSON'S FRUIT SYRUPS

Mixed with Aerated or plain water make

DELICIOUS COOLING DRINKS.

Guaranteed to be made from the PURE JUICE OF SOUND RIPE FRUIT.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

HONGKONG, CHINA AND MANILA.

ESTABLISHED 1841.

Hongkong, 29th September, 1908.

NOTICE.

All communications intended for publication in "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to The Editor, 1, Lee House Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address.

Ordinary business communications should be addressed to The Manager.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MS., nor to return any Contribution.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (IN ADVANCE)

DAILY—\$80 per annum.
WEEKLY—\$18 per annum.
The rates per quarter and per month, proportional.
The daily issue is delivered free when the address is accessible to messenger. On copies sent by post an additional \$1.80 per quarter is charged for postage. The postage on the weekly issue to any part of the world is 50 cents per quarter.
Single Copies. Daily, ten cents; Weekly, twenty-five cents.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1908.

JAPANESE SHIPPING SUBSIDIES.

Although much has been written from time to time regarding the system of shipping subsidies in Japan, it has seldom been suggested that outside the shipbuilders and shipping corporations there has been any general opposition to the allocation of funds by the Japanese Government for the purpose of fostering the overseas trade. It has always been assumed, and nothing in the foreign or vernacular press of Japan appeared to the contrary, that exporters and manufacturers were equally favourable to the scheme of subsidies. By the aid of the Government in this direction, Japanese shipping firms were enabled to carry goods at rates which reflected disastrously on the quotations submitted by foreign firms. In other words foreign vessels were penalised in order that the Japanese shipping trade might be fostered and the overseas carrying business widened and extended. Naturally, such a condition of affairs grated on those shipowners of other countries who had to go without benefit of subsidy in so far as Government subsidies were concerned, and it was only by the most strenuous exertions and established reputations that they succeeded in holding their own against the pertinacious efforts of the Japanese to gain a footing in centres which they had previously left unexplored. Our readers will remember the bold attempt which the Nippon Yusen Kaisha made last year to capture or, at least, to gain a share of the Bangkok, Hongkong and Swatow trade, and how that attempt failed. Then it was announced that the Kaisha intended to secure the Bangkok trade from Singapore, making

the latter port the headquarters of this branch line, but what success has attended that scheme, if it has been inaugurated, we are not in a position to state. There were also projects to advance the South American, Australian and European lines and in that respect the shipping companies of Japan found their efforts adequately rewarded as the evidence as shown by the launching of the magnificent new passenger steamers for Europe and San Francisco undoubtedly proved. But the progress and energy of the Japanese shipowners were in part attributable to the handsome financial assistance rendered by the Government and not to the sole undivided labours of themselves, although that was no inappreciable quantity. Of course there is nothing derogatory to the shipping companies in accepting the subsidies so freely offered, or running at a profit the vessels which were presented to them as a free gift by the Government—vessels which had been captured during the war. But what went against the grain of most critics was that the money expended in these subsidies was actually part of the loans raised in London, New York, Paris and Berlin. So that the best endeavours of foreign shipping firms to compete on a level scale with the Japanese were to a great extent rendered nugatory by the action of their own compatriots in the financial world at home. Of late, however, the Japanese Government has been so hard pressed for ready cash that it has had to consider the question of shipping subsidies. The financial crisis began with the failure of the smaller banks in the capital and in the more important provincial towns. That meant a corresponding difficulty on the part of the people to pay the increasing burden of taxes and ultimately led to the reduction in the appropriation vote for the army and navy by £20,000,000. But even the extensive economies made throughout the Government departments in Japan have not achieved the end in view of relieving the national financial stringency, and it seems that merchants and others, including the native press, have begun to view with disfavour the enormous sum annually distributed in the form of subsidies to the shipping companies. The writer of "Commercial Notes" in the *Kobe Herald* is quite candid on the subject and his remarks, we venture to think, will come in the nature of a mild revelation to those whose interests be outside Dai Nippon. The writer in question remarks that with the exception of those connected with either the shipping or shipbuilding trades, almost all the papers and apparently a majority of commercial men are opposed to the renewal of the present subsidy system. This system will come to an end next year. As to the reasons, they agree that the subsidy has enabled the business men and companies concerned to develop their business enormously but that carelessness has been shown in incurring needless expenditure. The object of the subsidy, they contend, was and is to enable the companies concerned to work on an independent basis, but unfortunately, the opponents of the system claim, the result has only made them dependent, while the system has served to disturb business not only in Japan but in other parts of the world. The *Tokio Asahi*, which is strongly opposed to a renewal, states that Japan has been engaged most zealously in what it terms "this foolish subsidy competition," and that little good has been accomplished. Investigations made by the authorities, says the *Asahi*, prove this, and in support of this assertion the following official report on the rates of shipping subsidies, per ton, of various Powers, is published:—

Country.	Amount of Subsidy, per ton
Japan	12.30
France	11.13
Russia	3.76
Italy	3.66
America	2.17
Germany81
Great Britain56

The paper mentioned attributes the present depression in the shipping trade very largely to the working of the subsidy. It says that a director of a certain shipping company has repeatedly laid stress on the unfavourable condition of his business, merely in order to bring about a renewal of the subsidy his company has been receiving. It urges the authorities to pay the utmost attention to the question before making a definite decision one way or the other. All this will come as news to those who believed that Japan was committed to the subsidy system, and if in the end there is a substantial decrease in the expenditure under this head the result should prove as beneficial to Japan as it will to legitimate traders. With regard to the financial situation generally in Japan our contemporary reports that slowly but surely the bankers are getting less timid. The probability is that things would never have been so bad as they were had they exercised a spirit of confidence a little longer. Business, however, is as dull as ever, and the majority of men are engaged only in work of adjustment. Needless to say there is not a great demand for money. Bankers have money in hand, but the rate of interest has not fallen. The writer goes

on to say that about ¥1,000,000 will be required for the payment of income and residential land taxes, at the end of the current month, so money will then become a little tighter, but the progress of the restoration of normal financial conditions is not likely to be affected. On and after the 15th proximo National Bonds will be repaid to the amount of ¥20,000,000, and then a good deal of money which is now lying idle for summer and autumn silk cocoons, and yarn will be set free. It is probable that the rate of interest will drop again then. It is only natural that money should become tighter towards and after the commencement of November in view of the approach of the end of the year. Owing, however, to the fact that National Bonds to the amount of ¥24,000,000 will fall due in the course of December, the money market may continue easy till the year is over. Provided that the forecast is accurate and well founded Japan should find her national finances in a very much easier position next year than they have been since the end of hostilities.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The organization of the China-Japanese Yaku Forestry Company is progressing with great rapidity.

In spite of the postponement of the Tokio Exhibition, the American Commissioners arrived in Yokohama on the 2nd instant.

A FOREIGNER named Savio Anzani was sent to the House of Detention this morning, by order of Mr. J. R. Wood, for being a vagrant.

We regret to state that Mr. John A. Ross, the accountant of the Chartered Bank, is very seriously ill at the Nursing Home, Shanghai. He has undergone two operations and his condition is causing much anxiety to his many friends.—N. C. D. News.

A BOILERMAKER, giving the name of Cheng Kwan, residing at 88, Queen's Road East, was charged in the Police Court, this morning, with stealing a quantity of sheet iron, valued at \$50, belonging to the Hongkong Hotel Company, Ltd. It was alleged that accused removed the metal from the old portion of the building which is being pulled down. He pleaded not guilty to the charge, and the case was remanded.

JEAN GAMETRO, an Italian overseer belonging to the Tungku Railway, was charged in the Police Court, to-day, with assaulting a Chinese woman at Wanchai last night. Gametro returned the complaint by accusing the woman of stealing \$5 from his pocket, but this was not proved and he was discharged. On the other hand the Italian was bound over in the sum of \$100 to keep the peace for a year.

The Ministry of War has decided to create the post of an Inspector Generalship for each of the twenty-two provinces of the Empire. The duties of such Inspectors-General will be to keep a watch on the drilling and discipline of the newly-organized Army Corps of the respective provinces. The post will be a step higher than that of the Provincial Judge and one lower than the Provincial Superintendentship of Education.

BEFORE Mr. J. H. Kemp, in the Police Court, this afternoon, the two coolies, who were charged with committing armed robbery on board a junk, at Causeway Bay, on Sunday last, were brought up on trial. Inspector Fen-ton appeared on behalf of the police to prosecute. Evidence was heard to the effect that on the night in question while the master and his *foke* of junk No. 436 were asleep two men armed with fighting irons boarded the vessel and proceeded aft, where the master was to be found they bound his hands with a rope. One attempted to insert a piece of cloth in his mouth with the object of gagging him, but before this could be done the master gave the alarm. This brought the *foke* to his assistance and the man who had tried to gag him was arrested but the other who had in the interval been collecting some of the crew's possessions dropped the articles and escaped. However, he was arrested later in the day. The case was remanded.

INVALIDED ON PENSION.

WELL-KNOWN POLICE OFFICER LEAVES FOR THE HOMETOWN TO-DAY.

After serving nearly five years in the Hongkong Police Force, Police-constable (No. 34) J. Lenaghan has been invalided on a pension. He left for the homeland to-day, by the P. and O. steamer *Nora*.

On the night of May 13, 1906, Police-constable Lenaghan, who was then stationed at Hunghom, went to the assistance of a Chinese policeman, who was being attacked by a number of American bluejackets, who were on their way to join their ship in Kowloon Docks. In the struggle that followed, Lenaghan was struck on the head with a beer bottle, which rendered him unconscious. Assistance was soon at hand and the bluejackets were beaten off. Lenaghan was taken to hospital, where he remained for about three weeks.

Since that time his mind seemed to have been affected, and he had been noticed to have acted queerly while on duty. This was brought to the attention of the Government medical officers, with the result, as stated above, that he was found unfit for further duty and was invalided.

Police-constable Lenaghan—a typical young Irishman—was well liked among his colleagues in the Force and his misfortune has been the cause of much regret.

Alarming Collapse.

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN JEOPARDY.

PORTION OF CEILING, NARROWLY ESCAPES INJURING MESSRS. GRESSON AND BADELEY.

It is seldom that any untoward incident mars the proceedings of the Legislative Council, but the meeting of the members this afternoon, which was of sufficient interest in itself by reason of the fact that the Estimates were under consideration, was seriously affected by the fall of a great block of stucco, which fell on the table between the heads of an unofficial and an official member. The business of the Council had just commenced. The Colonial Secretary had moved the second reading of the Appropriation Bill. Mr. Murray Stewart was beginning his speech, when Mr. W. J. Gresson, who arrived five minutes late, took his seat at the end of one arm of the table next to the Captain Superintendent of Police, Mr. Badeley. Everybody was interestedly listening to the opening remarks of Mr. Stewart, the representative of the Chamber of Commerce in the Legislative Council, when suddenly a block of ornamental and decorative stucco work on the roof fell with an alarming crash on the table immediately between Mr. Gresson and Mr. Badeley. For a second everybody was alarmed, and it was feared that the hon. members had been badly hurt. The block threw off a plethora of small chips which flew all around. At once Mr. Gresson and Mr. Badeley drew back and the Council was in some consternation for a moment. Mr. Murray Stewart went on calmly with his speech. The Clerk of Councils and the Chief Clerk made hurried exits and coolies removed the debris. There was no stoppage in the proceedings, but there was quite evidently a good deal of anxiety. The block of stucco, about a foot long and half a foot in depth, had rested at the spot where one of the punkah pins is fastened to the ceiling. The punkahs were immediately stopped and thenceforward during the afternoon were not again utilized. When one considers the heat of the chamber, even in comparatively cool weather, it can be well understood that the temperature of the room was far from exhilarating. Meanwhile, when it was seen that the danger was only local, as it were, there were "nods and winks and wretched smiles," although it must be confessed that with few exceptions nobody seemed to be exactly comfortable.

HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE COMPANY, LD.

EXTRAORDINARY MEETINGS.

The adjourned extraordinary general meeting of the Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd., was held at the registered offices of the Company, Alexandra Buildings, at noon to-day. Mr. Henry Humphreys presided. There were also present:—Dr. J. W. Noble, Messrs J. A. Jupp, (directors), J. M. Wong, D. E. Clarke, S. A. Seth, G. Rapp, C. B. Bayers, and Edouard Seth (secretary).

The secretary read the notice convening the meeting. Before moving the resolution, the Chairman explained that the object of the resolution was to enable the Board of Directors to utilise the amount now standing to the credit of the equalization fund for any extraordinary expenses such as typhoons and floods. He stated that the resolution was a simple one and would not involve any alteration of the articles of association. Before moving the resolution, he would be glad to answer any questions.

There were no questions. The Chairman moved:—"That the sum of \$50,000 now standing at the credit of Fund for Equalization of Dividend be transferred to the credit of 'Typhoon and Floods' Insurance Fund."

Mr. S. A. Seth seconded.

The motion was carried unanimously.

A second extraordinary general meeting was subsequently held, the same shareholders being present.

The Secretary read the notice of the meeting. The Chairman said that before moving the resolutions he would be glad to answer any questions. He might state for the information of shareholders that under the existing articles of association it would be almost impossible to make any change without calling for meetings of shareholders hence the desirability of altering article 54. The amendment to article No. 54 was simply to correct a clerical error. No question being asked.

The Chairman moved:—"That Article No. 54 of the Articles of Association of the Company be cancelled and the following Article substituted therefor:—'Three Members present shall be a quorum for an Ordinary General Meeting. For all other Meetings the quorum shall be five.'"

"That Article No. 111 of the Articles of Association of the Company be altered by deleting the words 'the Governing Director or' and 'two Directors' on the seventh line thereof and substituting the following words therefor:—'The General Managers.'"

Mr. Bayers seconded.

Resolution carried unanimously.

The Chairman:—"The resolutions will have to be confirmed at a subsequent meeting which will be duly convened. Thank you for your attendance, gentlemen."

The meeting then ended.

A TOKIO despatch, of the 2nd inst., to the *N. C. D. News* says:—"The rumour of an entente between the United States and Japan are contributing to a remarkable buoyancy of shares on the Tokio market. This state of affairs, however, is largely due to the reaction from former pessimism consequent upon the renewal of confidence in the Government's financial intentions. The question of an entente has hitherto been declared premature. But it is stated that various persons are agitating for it."

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

THE DALAI LAMA.

DIPLOMATIC AFFINITIES.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 7th October.

Since the arrival of the Dalai Lama in Peking, the Diplomatic Corps has paid deferential visits to him.

On the 5th instant, the British, American, German, and Russian Ministers made official calls on the Buddhist Pontiff.

The Ministers had a long conference with him.

TIBET.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS URGED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 7th October.

Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress Dowager personally commanded Grand Counsellors Chang Chih-tung and Yuan Shih-kai to put the administrative affairs of Tibet in proper order, rather than to discuss matters to no effective purpose.

CHINA'S CURRENCY.

A VAGUE MESSAGE.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 7th October.

The Board of Civil Affairs memorialized the Throne urging that Tang Shiao-yi should be instructed to include the question of China's currency in the Treaties with the Foreign Powers.

[This vague message is meaningless, as it stands. It is more likely that Tang Shiao-yi is desired to study the currency system obtaining in the countries which he is about to visit.—Ed. N. K. T.]

THE YUNNAN QUESTION.

AMICABLY SETTLED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 7th October.

The Yunnan frontier question respecting the murder of French officers by Chinese insurgents has been amicably settled between the Waiwupu and the French Minister in Peking.

CHINESE STUDENTS.

PROSPECTIVE APPOINTMENTS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."] Peking, 7th October.

The Waiwupu has instructed the Chinese Ministers accredited to Foreign countries to make special note of the students who pay for their own education in those countries so that they may be appointed to the various Ministries when occasions offer.

TYPHOON WARNING.

The American Consulate-General received the following telegram from the Manila Observatory at 1 o'clock p.m. to-day:—

October 8, 1908, at noon, cyclone or typhoon E. of Luzon, less than 300 miles distant, moving W.N.W.

DISCOVERY OF A NEW COMET.

A new Comet, which is described as bright, was discovered by Morehouse at the Yerkes Observatory, Wisconsin, on September 2nd. It is at present situated upon the southern border of the constellation Cygnus and is moving northward. It is already nearly five times as bright as at the time of discovery, is still increasing in brilliancy, and will reach the point of nearest approach to the sun on December 26th.—Communicated.

A DOCTOR named Fung Tak, and a coolie, Chan Lau, were arrested before Mr. J. H. Kemp in the Police Court, to-day, charged with stealing \$38.57 from a salt-fish dealer at 120, Connaught Road, yesterday. The case was adjourned until to-morrow.

Telegrams.

Bulgaria and Turkey.

LONDON, 6th October.

Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria, in a telegram to the Sultan of Turkey, says that he has been compelled to respect the wishes of the nation, and expresses the hope that the friendly relations hitherto existing between the two countries will be maintained.

A Council of Ministers is considering a reply, which will probably take the form of a protest at the Prince's action, and a refusal to recognize Bulgaria's independence.

A Manifesto issued at Sofia yesterday evening says that the proclamation of independence is in conformity with the will of the people who hope that the Powers will approve.

Prince Ferdinand and his Ministers have started for Philippopolis.

The mobilization of an army of 100,000 men has been ordered.

The European Situation.

At Paris, M. Pichon discussed with M. Iswolsky, Russian Foreign Minister, and Sir Francis Bertie, British Ambassador, the question of a European Congress which is growing in probability, despite the danger of dealing with the inflammable matters involved.

The Sultan, in his reply to Prince Ferdinand which has now been despatched, says that Turkey has invited the Powers to confer on the situation.

An anti-Austrian mass meeting has been held at Belgrade at which there were shouts of "Down with Austria" and much bellicose talk.

The Serbian reserves numbering 120,000 men were called out yesterday.

The Oshu Hospital Students.

A meeting has been held at Lord Salisbury's house at which it was resolved to form an Etonian association for China in support of Bishop Casel's scheme for students in the hospital at Oshu.

A committee was appointed with Lord William Cecil as chairman.

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

THE SQUALL.

[From Our Own Correspondent.] Canton, 7th October.

Reports of the disastrous squall which struck the city of Canton at 12.30 yesterday continue to arrive. Further damages to house property are now reported. Most of the buildings along the bund suffered slight damage, while in the Western suburb, one house in Kung Yat Moon street, had one of its side walls blown down. One building in course of construction in Kwong Nga lane had its matched blow down wounding three workmen, a telegraph pole in Po Yan Fong was broken into three parts, and some seven or eight houses in Po Yuen Tai Kai suffered serious damage to the roofs and walls, etc. In the suburb of Pan Tong two houses collapsed and seven persons in all were more or less injured. In Nam Ngan, a village beyond the Western suburb, eight houses collapsed and four others were damaged; one man was killed and two others wounded. In Q Toi, a village next to Nam Ngan, four houses collapsed and over ten others were damaged. The wind blew in a westerly direction so that destruction was only done to house properties in the western part of the city and its suburbs. The residents in the eastern part of the city seemed not to have noticed the approach of the squall. Soon after the blow, the Canton Self-Government Society, the Canton Fong Pio Hospital, the Red Cross Society and the Anti-Opium Society and other institutions sent out members to make a tour of inspection in different parts of the city and to the two villages referred to with medical comforts to assist any one in need. The doctor of the Fong Pio Hospital is attending to two wounded persons, and Doctor Leung Hin Fung has two under his care.

THREATENED INUNDATION.

A telegram has been received from the Taotai at Luechow stating that incessant and heavy rain was experienced there for some days and consequently the river rose, over three feet, which would probably result in a downward course by the West River. In the telegram the Taotai advised that precautionary steps might be taken for the protection of the embankments along the West River.

CANTON-KONGMOON RAILWAY.

A meeting is to be held to-day by the members of the board of directors of the Canton-Hankow Railway Company in connection with work to be proceeded forthwith for the survey of the proposed Canton-Kongmoon line.

PROPOSED GERMAN COLLEGE.

Yesterday, the German Consul at Canton had an interview with Viceroy Chang Jen Chou. He made a suggestion to His Excellency for the opening of a college for the German language in the Wah Lum monastery building for Chinese students. The Viceroy has not yet acquiesced in the German Consul's proposal. His Excellency stated that investigations will have to be made before a definite answer can be given.

EMERGENCY TELEGRAMS.

Instructions have been received from the Ministry of Posts and Communications at Peking by the Imperial Chinese Telegraph Administration here that urgent telegrams in cases of emergency, such as rebellion, military and food, etc., should be charged only half rate.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber this afternoon. Present: His Excellency the Governor, Sir Frederick Lugard, K.C.M.G., Colonel Darling, R.E., commanding the Forces in South China, Hon. Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G., (Colonial Secretary), Hon. Mr. W. Ross Davies (Attorney General), Hon. Mr. A. M. Thomson (Colonial Treasurer), Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, C.M.G., (Director of Public Works), the Hon. Mr. F. J. Bodeley, (Captain Superintendent of Police), Hon. Mr. E. A. Irving (Registrar General), Hon. Mr. Ho Kai, M.B., C.M.G., Hon. Mr. Wei Yuk, C.M.G., Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson, Hon. Mr. Murray Stewart, Hon. Mr. H. A. W. Slade, and Mr. C. Clement (Clerk of Councils).

AGENDA.

Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

FINANCE.

The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee (No. 16).

FINANCIAL MINUTES.

The Colonial Secretary laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 57 to 59. It was agreed that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

APPROPRIATION BILL.

The Colonial Secretary moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding five millions five hundred and seventy thousand four hundred and twenty-seven dollars to the Public Service of the year 1909.

The Colonial Treasurer seconded. Hon. Mr. Murray Stewart: "The duty has devolved upon me of stating in outline the views of the unofficial members on the provisions of this Bill and of making a few brief comments upon the lucid and interesting statement with which it is introduced. This time last year the representative of the Chamber of Commerce opened his speech on the estimates by congratulating Your Excellency on the satisfactory financial condition of the Colony."

Exchange was then high and believed in. The long period of commercial depression was already thought to be passing away. Land sales were estimated to bring in 3 lacs. The burden of the cost of railway construction had hardly begun to make itself felt. Optimistic forecasts were the order of the day.

We all know what happened. We know that a world-wide depression had yet to come. We remember that it fell upon us almost immediately and that exchange also promptly began to fall. The results are to be found in the figures of the Financial Statement to which, a fortnight ago, Your Excellency invited our attention, preliminary to dealing with the estimates for next year. The figures of the revised estimates for 1908 emphasise the unwisdom of overrelying upon the imaginary resources of a problematical period of prosperity anticipated mainly for the reason that it is so much to be desired. The net result of such drawings in the present instance is, in the words of Your Excellency, "that a debit balance of \$8,000 is anticipated to accrue from the working of the current year." Under the circumstances that the balance of our assets is thus expected to decline from over a million and a half dollars, at the end of last year, to a little over \$500,000 at the end of this year, it is unfortunately impossible on the present occasion to congratulate Your Excellency on the financial conditions of the Colony.

That the financial condition of the Colony is unsatisfactory is clearly demonstrated, not only by the revised estimates for 1908, but also by the leading feature of the estimates for the coming year. The leading feature of these estimates is obviously the inclusion in the general revenue of over \$4,000,000 received from the "Widows and Orphans' Fund." By this means a large deficit has been provided against, which would otherwise have led Your Excellency to propose an increase in taxation for the full amount. That there was some such design we suspected. That the Colony was in reduced circumstances we knew. But that there was such dire need for the succour thus provided some of us perhaps did not altogether realise, nor could it easily have been imagined from the disinterested attitude adopted by the Government in those somewhat breezy debates which led to this wadfall. This method of dealing with the proceeds of the fund which as Your Excellency admitted "should theoretically be invested in some remunerative work which would benefit the Colony, and at the same time produce a sum equivalent to meet the new charge upon the revenues," naturally occupied the chief place in our elucidation of the estimates.

It is equally natural that it should have principally occupied the minds of the unofficial members when we met to consider the Government's proposals. The result of our deliberations is that although we regard this disposal of the fund as a departure from the principles of sound finance we do not see our way to oppose it, in view of Your Excellency's pronouncement that it is the Government's only alternative to increased taxation. We are certainly not prepared to advocate that. We believe that to raise the rates on property at the present time would be little short of disastrous. Moreover, we feel that the argument derived by Your Excellency from the fact that the taxpayers of the day are being called upon to shoulder a disproportionately heavy burden of the cost of railway construction is strong enough to clear us from the charge of indifference to the claims of posterity.

Those who will come after us will profit at our expense inasmuch as that the interest on the railway loan is being paid out of current revenue instead of being debited to capital account as might properly be done. In fact, in this case, it is possible to argue that, in defiance of the proverb, "two wrongs make a right." The realisation that, in spite of this wadfall, it is only just being possible to make both ends meet is sufficient cause for satisfaction that negotiations with the Home Government have not so far made it necessary

to provide for any reduction in the revenue from opium.

The narrowness of the financial straits through which the Colony is passing will inevitably wreck these estimates should the Home Government insist upon pushing the claims of the extreme section of the anti-opium agitators.

The unofficial members discussed the possibility of this in connection with the subject of the military contribution. In speaking upon this fruitful topic of controversy Your Excellency evidently anticipated an attack upon the principle underlying the impost, and you referred to some strong remarks made last year on the subject by the Honourable Member whose place on this Council I temporarily occupy. The quotation from these remarks which Your Excellency made might, perhaps, isolated from its context, convey a wrong impression of his attitude and it is only fair to point out that he also said this: "I for one think and have always maintained that it is correct that the Colony should contribute something towards the Imperial Troop, but for a small Colony the sum of \$1,200,000 is excessive."

Speaking for the unofficial members of the day I have to say that we are of one mind regarding the principle of the contribution and in full accord with the views of Your Excellency as regards the advantage to the Colony of the presence of the Garrison. I for one have never been able to appreciate the force of the objection raised against the contribution on the ground that the Garrison is retained here mainly for strategic and Imperial purposes.

Imperial strategy to these parts is obviously a naval matter and its depictions can hardly depend upon a small body of troops which is scarcely more than sufficient to ensure order and security within the limits of the Colony. That a detachment is liable to be requisitioned to quell a riot in an outpost is a minor consideration of its uses which cannot be classed as strategic. But whether for strategic or local purposes, the presence of the Garrison here is recognised by the unofficial members as conferring great benefits upon the Colony. Those who doubt this can hardly have reflected upon the fact to which Your Excellency also drew attention, that one-half to two-thirds of the funds devoted to the Garrison come out of the pocket of the British taxpayer. True, the unofficial members view the method upon which the contribution is levied as a bad one. That it is open to criticism Your Excellency clearly showed, inasmuch as that under the present method the sum payable is increased in a time of financial difficulty.

We are pleased to know that Your Excellency is at work on a plan which will place the levy on a more equitable basis and we trust that you will succeed in overcoming the serious difficulties, which you have not confined to us, but which have so far prevented you from proposing it to the Secretary of War.

But though the unofficial members view with favour the principle of the contribution and in ordinary times would willingly consent to its appearance in the Estimates, we wish to make this clear that if the Opium policy of the Home Government is pushed with such persistence as to wreck these estimates, and if the threat of increased taxation comes to be made good, then we shall hold ourselves free to seek relief by agitating instead for a remission of a part of this contribution.

Here it may perhaps not be inappropriate to suggest to the Government that instead of fixing their thoughts upon increased taxation as the only alternative to temporary expedients they should bring their minds to bear upon the possibilities of retrenchment. Is there really no such possibility? Are all means of cutting down expenses exhausted? Are all methods of effecting those small economies that lead to large economy conscientiously employed in all the Departments of the Government? When one glances over the pages of these estimates and sees the long lists of minor appointments, the frequently recurring items of charges for allowances, extras, incidental expenses and what not, it is difficult to repress a doubt as to whether the administration could not be run on more economical lines.

In particular one cannot help wondering whether greater economies could not be effected in the Sanitary Department. The comparatively small saving shown in the estimates under this head has been noted with some disappointment.

The recent authoritative pronouncement of the Indian Plague Commission has made it clear that many of the expensive and irritating methods hitherto employed in combating plague in this Colony were absolutely futile, as, for instance, the free use of disinfectants, lime-washing and the rest of it. The number of coolies engaged by the Department when it was thought necessary to carry out these mistaken methods could surely be still further reduced and so, one would think, might the number of inspectors employed to look after them. This would not only effect an actual saving but would indirectly benefit the revenue by encouraging Chinese to come here instead of driving or keeping them away as at present.

In this and other ways the lavish expenditure which grew up during years of exceptional prosperity, and which originated partly in the careless habit of mind which prosperity brings, should be resolutely reduced.

The unofficial members are by no means persuaded that no retrenchment is possible. Neither I believe are the general public so persuaded. Before agreeing to any fresh taxation they will require to be.

I do not propose to follow Your Excellency into any of the details of these estimates, but there are one or two matters especially interesting to the public upon which it may not be out of place to say just a few words.

First and foremost in the public eye stands, of course, the railway. It is satisfactory to learn that, speaking generally, progress has been well maintained. In particular, it is satisfactory to know that the pace at which the

work of reclamation at Kowloon is advancing has of late been notably accelerated. The arrest of the bridge work is a matter upon which under the circumstances it is perhaps undesirable to comment. Of course the railway will never be anything but an expensive toy until through communication is made to Canton and beyond. But even though it may only be as a railway to nowhere we welcome the prospect that the line to the frontier will be completed and opened for local traffic by March 1910.

This prospect opens up the question of roads in the New Territory for which we are glad to see some provision has been made. It is unnecessary to dwell on the stimulating influence of improved means of communication, apart from which the roads are needed to feed the railway. I am sorry that it has not been decided to build the more important roads, as for instance, that from Castle Peak to Ping Shan, wide enough to admit of wheeled traffic. I think that this decision requires reconsideration. The plan of making a narrow road with the intention of some day returning to widen it does not recommend itself either for efficiency or economy. In the long run it will prove more expensive and in the meantime communication between the villages will still be subject to pedestrian conditions which do not make for rapid progress. It has been pointed out to me that the roads ought to be built strictly as feeders and that they should be commenced and pushed out from suitable places along the line of the track. I imagine that the importance of this has not escaped Your Excellency's advisers.

That the New Territories should yield in all a revenue of upwards of \$200,000, exclusive of land sales, is perhaps the brightest spot in the whole Budget, and it was only fitting that Your Excellency should single out for special mention the notable part played by Mr. Clement in the initial stages of the settlement of those Territories and the admirable work of development which is being carried out by his successors. As one who has taken a keen interest in it for years, I found satisfaction in Your Excellency's appreciative reference to the work, the value of which, I may say, has never been hidden from the present unofficial members, nor, I fancy, from that section of the public which takes an interest in local affairs.

As regards the roads on the Island I have a word to say on my own account. When I returned to this Colony at the end of last year, after an absence of nine months, the strongest impression of change which I received was the change for the worse which had overtaken the surface of the roads. In particular I refer to such roads as that leading up from Happy Valley to Wong-nai-chong Gap, and that down from there to Aberdeen, also to Black's Link and even the Bowen Road, and last but not least the Jubilee Road, but I do not by any means confine my criticisms to these. I imagined that the fallen state they were in must be due to less money having been appropriated towards their upkeep than in former years, owing to our extreme impecuniosity. I was surprised therefore to notice that the vote for this year is the same as last, and I am unable to account for it, except upon the theory that the money so devoted was not properly spent. Quite recently, the first road referred to has been repaired, and also Black's Link, but on the Jubilee Road the grass still grows, in many places a foot high, and in others the surface has become a series of small ravines created by the rains. The roads of this Colony used to be one of our chief sources of pride, and they ought to be so at this day if thorough supervision were exercised over the spending of the money devoted to their upkeep.

Another matter of widespread public comment is the extent to which the Ordinance relating to receipt stamps is neglected in small business transactions. A strict enforcement of the existing law would, in the opinion of many of our leading Chinese residents, bring in a really large revenue; indeed I have heard the coming-tion opinion expressed by more than one such, that between retrenchment and receipt stamps there ought to be enough to banish the prospect of having to meet a deficit next year, when there will be no Widows' and Orphans' Fund to fall back upon. However that may be, there is no doubt that a good deal can be done, and the unofficial members have noted with satisfaction that Your Excellency was aware of the position, and had already taken steps towards availing of its advantages.

On the subject of the judiciary the opinion of the unofficial members is divided as regards the necessity for a third Judge, but there is no division of opinion as regards the view that the state of the Colony's finances does not allow of the creation of such an appointment at the present time. Under these circumstances we agree in viewing with favour the new arrangement announced by Your Excellency. I have to add on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce that the arrangement highly recommends itself to the Committee.

These are all the points upon which I have to comment at this stage of the Bill.

It only remains to refer to Your Excellency's interpretation of the purpose of the times. The reiterated belief that there all point towards a period of prosperity ran through your speech like a refrain. It is quite possible to share this belief as regards the general trend of events in the wider world, and even as regards the China trade, and yet at the same time to doubt whether this Colony is destined to benefit thereby to the extent that Your Excellency anticipates. Your Excellency referred with evident satisfaction to certain official reports and statistics which seemed to show that Canton had been prospering during the period in which in Hongkong we had heard nothing but talk of languishing markets. Some of us had already noted the fact as anomalous. If Manchester or Hamburg were to flourish while Liverpool or Bremen respectively dwelled, would the inhabitants of the latter ports have reason to reflect with satisfaction on the circumstance? Without laying themselves open to the charge of undue pessimism, they might judge that trade was going past them, that business was being done direct. Our circumstances are not exactly parallel, but there is enough

similarly to make one ponder. Some observers think that Hongkong is in danger of losing its important position as a mart. This is an ugly foreboding. But its opposite does not justify anyone in simply turning away. The blindness of hope is proverbial, but optimism is finance at least, should keep open eyes. Optimism may sometimes fetter the fact of prosperity. But at least, through excess, it is often beguiled adversity.

Here in Hongkong, if anywhere, the truth of that has been demonstrated time and time again. Some of us, who realise how much this Colony has suffered from the results of optimism carried to excess, view this budget with concern, having regard to the extent to which the future is relied upon to ameliorate present conditions. We should have liked to see more evidence than it displays of a growing disposition to set the Colony's financial house in order, lest the long prophesied period of renewed prosperity should still lag. In saying this I am not actuated by any desire wantonly to tear to pieces the good hope upon which was mainly based Your Excellency's defence of this makeshift budget, but because I have felt bound to point out that there is another side to the picture.

And now having said so much in discharge of the unpleasant duty of critic, I have to add an expression of my most earnest desire that these and all such forebodings may be utterly falsified, and that Your Excellency's brighter forecast may be justified, and eventually vindicated by the only logic that can ultimately be relied upon to make the position clear—the infallible, illuminating logic of events.

Mr. Gresson said the hon. member who had just said down had voiced the views of the unofficial members of the Council on the Estimates for 1909, but there were one or two points to which he wished to make reference. It had been pointed out time and again that in Hongkong the harbour and shipping were all important and it should not be their policy to bleed the shipping. Two items had been increased 66 per cent. in the present Estimates—he referred to boat licences and the medical examination of emigrants. Those interested had received no intimation of an increase in the fees except through the *Government Gazette*. That the Estimates were not reliable was a well established fact and he instanced the case of the waterworks. He asked the Governor to give an assurance that \$750,000 would be the maximum estimate contributed by light dues. His Excellency had made no reference to the means of retrenchment proposed and he hoped some light would be thrown on that subject. He thought it would be admitted there must be some limit to the allowance to be made for the fall in exchange. It was put at 12.9d. but the exchange had fallen below that before and it might easily do so again. This would prove to be the most important factor to the Colony and was a matter which should receive the closest attention.

The Colonial Secretary said that he would not deal with any of the questions which were really of the nature of criticisms of His Excellency's speech in moving the estimates. He was, however, the editor of a newspaper—the most important newspaper in the Colony—the *Government Gazette*. He was sorry to think that it was regarded as a sort of place to hide things away in and not to make them public. He went on to show how the increase in the boat licences was published in the *Gazette* under the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, and he was astonished that the hon. member (Mr. Gresson) had not referred with avidity to such an important enactment. The increase in the fees of the medical examination of emigrants was effected under the Emigration Ordinance and also was published in the *Gazette*. He failed to see how the Government could submit increased taxation of this nature except through the Legislative Council and the official publication.

The Director of Public Works dealt with questions raised in Mr. Murray Stewart's speech with reference to the width of roads at Castle Peak and Ping Shan and on the island. He alluded to the extension of the Kowloon Waterworks, and the catchment area which had to be increased in order to meet possible future requirements.

His Excellency the Governor said that before he reviewed briefly the remarks made by the hon. member for the Chamber of Commerce as representing the view of the unofficial members to-day, he thought the Council would agree with him when he said that the narrow escape which they had just witnessed by one of the members of this Council was a matter which they might all most sincerely congratulate themselves upon. The hon. member on his right (Mr. Stewart) referred first of all to the very large deficit which they would have to deduct from the balance of their reserves at the end of the year, \$531,000 as being due to the working of the past year. His Excellency had explained very fully how that was made up and he would merely remind the Council that some \$100,000 of that was due to the very exceptional expenditure on the purchase of a dredger and the fact of the relief of the people in South China—neither of which might be considered to be the ordinary expenses of the Colony. Passing from the general revenue to the finances of the Colony, to the general tone of which he had nothing whatever to complain of, he would just allude to the remarks which he made on the question of the military contribution. His Excellency proceeded to say that he had not gone into all the details of this complicated calculation because he had on that occasion so much to say on other subjects that time would not permit of his going into any very intimate details of any one particular subject, and, moreover, his study was as yet incomplete and he was obtaining further figures in order to see if his suggestion was feasible or not. The hon. member had spoken somewhat emphatically on one point. He said that the unofficial members were unanimous that if the action of the Imperial Government in the matter of opium should result in wrecking the Estimates before them, they would then feel that a very strong

position had been erected from which to appeal to the Imperial Government for some remission in the military contribution. He (the Governor) did not think the military contribution precisely affected the opium question. Whether or not the Colony might hope for any financial consideration from the Imperial Government if the finances proved to be influenced by the Imperial policy was another question. He saw a day or two ago in a local paper a telegram saying that Japan had offered to join the other Powers in prohibiting the import of morphia into China, provided that China would agree to a trade morphia convention. The reply was that morphia had nothing to do with trademarks, and that position, he felt, was somewhat analogous to the question of the military contribution and the opium revenue. But undoubtedly the most serious question that had been brought forward by the two unofficial members who had spoken was the question of possible retrenchment. He could assure the Council that during the past year that question had been most vividly in the minds of himself and those who with longer experience in the Colony had advised him in the matters. It could not be denied that the financial position was one of very great difficulty and the smallest application for an increase, either in the matter of appointments or the matter of other charges had been most carefully scrutinised and unless it was proved to be absolutely essential it would not be allowed. Whether or not it might be possible to cut down minor charges in the various departments would continue to receive his most earnest consideration during the coming year. The question of the Sanitary Department was brought forward as a case in point. The savings in the Sanitary Department amounted to some \$36,000 or \$7,000 in the Estimates before the Council. That was in spite of an increase due to the fall in exchange—a fall of \$17,600. In other charges referred to by the speaker there was a decrease under 22 heads, practically under every one. The hon. member pointed out the reports which had reached him of the Indian Plague Commission had demonstrated that disinfection and other methods on which much money had hitherto been spent were largely if not entirely futile. And he pressed on the Government not to neglect the lessons to be learned from those reports. He thought he might ask the hon. member—To whose initiative was it that these reports had been so prominently brought forward? He thought it was largely due and chiefly due to the energy of the new Head of the Sanitary Board—(hear, hear)—who, to his knowledge, had taken an enormous amount of personal trouble in investigating various journals of hygiene, etc. (Applause). After dealing at considerable length with the question of roads His Excellency said he claimed to no authority for what he had said with regard to the outlook. It had been suggested that this port might suffer in its prominence as a great free port by direct trade being done between foreign countries and the ports of China if boat fees were increased. His answer to that was the answer he gave this time last year, that in his view Hongkong should endeavour to do its utmost to endeavour to become not only a mart of exchange but an industrial and manufacturing centre, for which its geographical position suited it, as well as an exchange mart. It was hinted, too, that possibly the increase in the trade of Canton and other Chinese ports indicated that it was quite possible that their success might mean our decrease. He notified from the abstract of statistics of the Chinese Customs that the imports from Hongkong increased last year by eleven million taels. That appeared to him a fact that could not be gainsaid. He did not think either that it could fairly be said that this Budget was a Budget of optimism, because, as he said before, the Estimates both of expenditure and of revenue had been framed on a year of extreme depression. With regard to Mr. Gresson's remarks, he did not feel himself in a position to say that the maximum amount of the light dues were indicated in the Estimates. The completion of the refuge would in all probability take place some time after he had left this Colony. The taxpayers of the Colony were as much entitled to consideration as those entitled to pay this special aid, he did not think, enormous due. His Excellency referred also to the increase in the fees for the medical examination of emigrants. He had dealt somewhat fully with that in his remarks on the Estimates and he had explained that the Government had considered it the best way of raising a somewhat large fee on emigration and, those who were best qualified to judge believed it would not interfere with emigration. His Excellency concluded by saying that he thought he had dealt with all the points raised by the speakers.

Mr. Slade said that the unofficial members trusted His Excellency would be able to formulate his ideas with regard to the military contribution and present them to the Legislative Council. He declared that if there was any change in the opium trade the unofficial members would hold themselves free to agitate for the remission of the military contribution. The question was then put. The Bill passed the second reading without a dissentient voice, and was referred to the Finance Committee.

EVIDENCE BILL.
On the motion of the Attorney General seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill entitled An Ordinance to extend a certain section in the Imperial Act styled the Evidence (Colonial Statutes) Act 1907, was read a second and third time and passed.

REGULATION OF THEATRES.
The Attorney General moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance for regulating Theatres and other places of public resort. The Bill was read a second time and passed through Committee.

ADJOURNMENT.
The Council adjourned till the 15th October.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.
A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the meeting of Council, the Colonial Secretary presiding. It was agreed to recommend that the following votes be adopted by the Council:—

VENUE CONTINUATION CLASSES.
A sum of five thousand two hundred and eighty-one dollars in aid of the vote, Education, Department of Inspector Schools, other charges, evening continuation classes.

TUNG WA HOSPITAL.
A sum of two thousand dollars in aid of the vote, charitable services, Tung Wa Hospital.

TREASURY VOTE.
A sum of two hundred and seventy dollars in aid of the vote, Treasury, Office of Assessor of Rates, other charges, for the following items:—

Furniture, \$ 35
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Total, \$290

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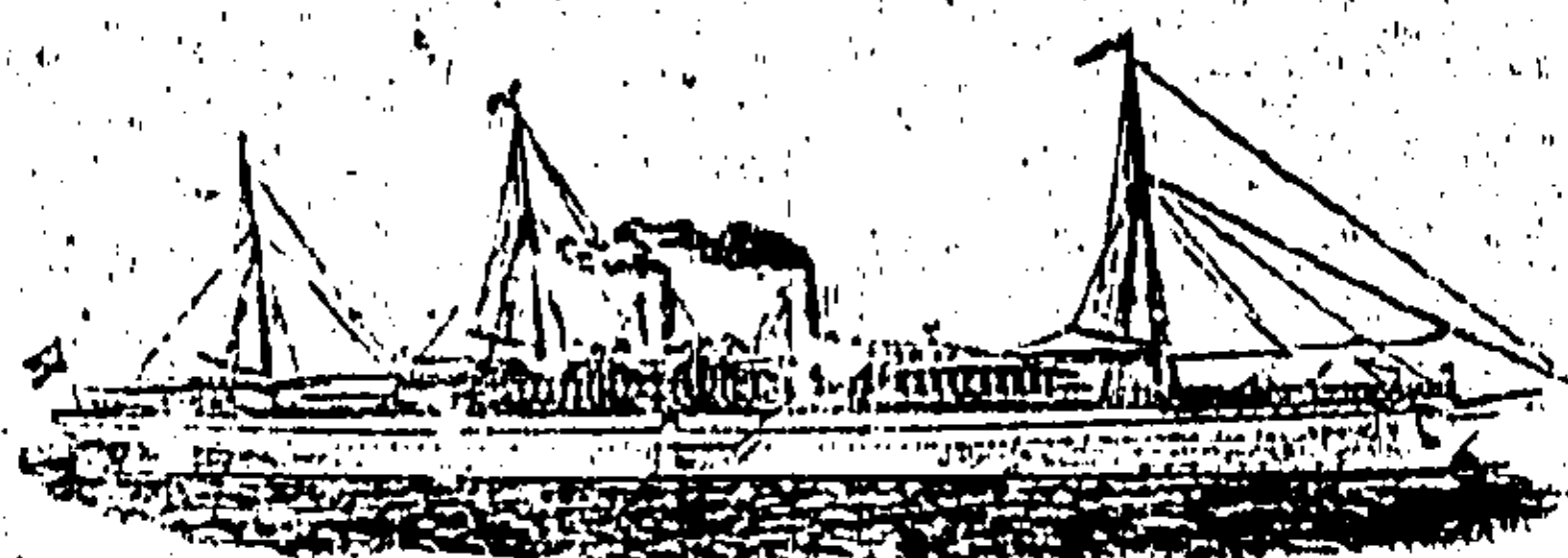
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"EMPERESS OF JAPAN"	6,000.....	SATURDAY, Nov. 7th	Nov. 28th
"EMPERESS OF CHINA"	6,000.....	SATURDAY, Nov. 28th	Dec. 19th
"MONTEAGLE"	6,163.....	SATURDAY, Dec. 12th	Jan. 5th, 1909
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MANILA		LOONGSANG	FRIDAY, 9th Oct., 4 P.M.
S'GAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA		KUMSANG	TUESDAY, 13th Oct., 4 P.M.
MANILA		YUENSANG	FRIDAY, 16th Oct., 4 P.M.
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Понедѣлокъ, 8й Октября, 1908.

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Steamship.	Tons.	Captain.	For	Sailing Dates.
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Captain G. R. Warner, R.N.R., will be despatched for the above Ports on or about the 13th October, 1908.

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For further Particulars, apply to:
F. J. ABBOTT,
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Hongkong, 5th October, 1908. [17]

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Hongkong, 8th October, 1908. [186]

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The doctor's bill is falling into the hands of the patient, and the patient is cured.

The patient is cured, and the doctor is cured.

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Homokona Laffin

HOMEROGUE	
Adams, F. R.	Laffin, T. M.
Allen, C. H.	Wesley, Miss K. A.
Anderson, W. H.	McKiny, Mr. and Mrs.
Arnold, Mr. and Mrs.	C. M.
Battlescombe, H. G.	McIntosh, G. O.
Beddome, Mr. Min. and	McKean, Dr. G. W.
Master	Massford, W. J.
Benson, R.	Moore, Dr. and Mrs.
Black, D. G. D. R.	W. B.
Blacks, A. E.	Niedhardt, E.
Blewfield, T.	Northrop, H.
Burleigh, Dr. and Mrs.	Obba, K.
L. D.	Pecker, B. L. W.
Bunner, W. C.	Pearse, Dr. W. W.
Clark, M. O.	Peake, A. W. J.
Colvly, H. E.	Perindge, Dr. & Mrs.
Gordon, H. L.	G. de
Copp, Mrs. W. H.	Ray, E. H.
Copp, Mrs. W. H.	Ryegordon, Madam
Copp, Miss A.	Roxas, E.
Copp, A. H.	Roxas, E. P. B. Y.
Dart, E. W.	Spitles, J.
Elliot, Capt. W.	Stabbing, W. T.
Esrom, F.	Stevens, Rev. A. J.
Feller, Dastmao	Thomas, B. P.

Gillet, L. Wallach, C.
Grice, I. F. Whitmarsh, Mr. and

Hall, Capt. T.
Hidner, H.
Hirst, W. A.
Ihm, W.
Innes, Capt. R.

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Almada, Miss & Mas-	Miranda, A. de
tague	Morse, P. M.
Barley, Mrs. M.	Nordstrom, G. L.
Barbey, O.	Nordstrom, Mrs. M. B.
Berger, Mr.	Noth, Mr. and Mrs. J.
Bicndell, Mr. and Mrs.	H.
Buchman, G. L.	Parke, Mrs. J. S.
Buntzen, Mrs. H. and 2	Parke, Miss
children	Parke, Miss Pauline
Burle, Mr.	Parke, Capt. L.
Caen, E. W.	Phillips, J.
Eyra, Mr. and Mrs. H.	Plaue, W. E.
Finber, G. A.	Riley, P. F. L.
Grant, J.	Dehiesser, Sae
Grant, Mr. and Mrs. L.	Scott, T. C.
T.	Sharpe, Lieut. and Mrs.
Hamilton, W.	H.
Hengh, Dr.	Silva, Mr. & Mrs. F. F.
Hulst, F.	Ega da
Jorge, Mr., Mrs. and	Silva-Netto, Mr. and
Master F. J. V.	Mrs. A. F. and child
Kelly, W. H.	Smith, Mr. and Mrs. O.
Kennedy, Mrs. A. F.	B.
Krueget, N. C.	Souza, Dr. E. L.
Luke Yv, Mrs.	Springer, M. E.
McInraith, T. W.	Walker, G.
McKaney, A. W.	Walton, Geo.
Milkooff, J.	Wilson, J. J.

KOWLOON.

Allen, C. S.	Palmer, A.
Gardner, J. H.	Pond, E.
Goldsmith, E. F.	Pundha, A.
Hope, Mr. and Mrs. J.	Randle, G. F.
and children	Stiehl, A.
Morris, Mr. and Mrs.	Stone, Mr. and Mrs.
Morris, Misses	

HINA STATION.

CAPTAIN.	LAST REPORTED AT
Commander C. T. K. Fuller ...	Woo-suong
F. E. O. Ryan ...	Christmas Island
S. E. Erskine ...	Miyadzu
Commander H. R. O. B. Bridgman ...	Shanghai
Commander F. W. Noble ...	Shanghai
Commander H. L. P. Heard ...	Hongkong
T. West ...	Hongkong
Commander C. T. Borrett ...	Hongkong
C. F. Henderson, R.N. ...	Hongkong
Commander A. L. Gresson ...	Weihaiwei
Roland Nugent ...	Shanghai
Commander B. J. D. Goy, V.C. ...	Weihaiwei
Commander Dickens ...	Weihaiwei
Commander C. A. Freeman ...	Weihaiwei
G. C. A. Marescaux ...	Miyadzu
Clinton Baker ...	Miyadzu
Commander T. J. S. Lyne ...	Yangtze
Commander F. H. Walter ...	Jesseltown
G. W. Smith ...	Miyadzu
Commander O. C. Walcott ...	Hongkong
Commander R. S. Roy ...	Yangtze
	Hongkong
Commander J. White ...	West River
Commander H. R. Tickell ...	West River
Commander Alas Dixon ...	Yangtze
W. Barlow ...	Mongkong
Miral R. H. S. Stokes ...	Hongkong
Commander H. R. Godfrey ...	Yangtze
Commander H. T. Attlay ...	Yangtze
Commander J. Kiddle ...	Weihaiwei
Commander H. P. Douglas ...	Singapore
Commander J. Kiddle ...	Hongkong
Commander Geo. F. Knox ...	Yangtze
Commander H. R. V. Cottrell-Dorman ...	Yangtze
Commander G. R. Livingstone ...	Yangtze

STATION.		LAST REPORTED
COMMANDING OFFICERS.		
Under Fournier	Shanghai
Landouard	Canton
Rochas	Shanghai
Le Lissars	Shanghai
Chibault	Yokohama
de la Maisneviller	Upper Yangtze
Puech	Topkin
Esseuil	Upper Yangtze
		Canton
Reserva.		
	Saloon
	
	
	
	
	
	
	
Bertand	Haiphong
Under Badin	Saloon
Gervais	Saloon
Dombet	Saloon
	Saloon
	Haiphong
	Saloon
Marrs	Saloon
Under Ragot de la Touche	Saloon
Under De la Roche Karadranon	Saloon
Monsieul	Saloon
Under Mortaniol	Hongay
Morris	Saloon
Troust	Saloon
Seriot	Saloon
Urvil	Saloon
Under Moreno	Hongay
Sibal	Cep Salat-Jacque

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WHY WORRY?

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ICE SCARFS, MOTOR VELS IN VARIOUS COLORS.

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THE MANAGER.

Hongkong 10th October, 1867.